



Battle Lines



Newsletter of Co. H, 5th Reg't. New Hampshire Vol's.

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Report: Atlantic Outdoor & RV Show



First Sergeant Leigh Gavel was correct. The Atlantic Outdoor Sports and RV Show was “wall-to-wall people” during much of the three days we were in attendance in Halifax on March 10-12. Although we do not know the attendance total for the weekend, event officials announced on Sunday morning that over 10,500 people had come through the doors by Saturday night, after two days. Sunday was quite busy, as well.

It is not possible, yet, to gauge the success of the event from a recruiting standpoint. We certainly had a lot of interest from visitors, with the usual surprised exclamations from people not knowing about Canadian involvement in its many forms in the Civil War. We also had many comments, telling us to “keep up the good work” sharing this little-told story of

Canadian history. That is always good to hear. In terms of recruiting interest, several people were given “Fighting Fifth” handbills and/or business cards, and six people filled-out “Potential Recruit” information forms – always a hopeful sign. One man was from Sussex, and was excited about the possibility of seeing us drill there; something he did not know happened in our little town. Another man was an ex-Confederate reenactor with the 10th Tennessee, who still carries his membership card with him, and says he “misses” reenacting. Others showing interest were quite young, and that could bode well for our future.

Representing Co. H were Dave Bottos, Leigh Gavel, Loran Gavel, Stephen Halliday and Lindsay Titus. Leigh was our organizer for the event, and our main contact, and we should all be thankful for the efforts he showed on behalf of the company. Not only did he get us registered for the event, but he fund-raised to pay for the registration fee, and also donated a handmade sheath with a knife to event organizers to be used as a door prize. Thank you, Leigh, for all you did, and continue to do, for the good of Company H!

Although a relative newcomer to Company H, Dave Bottos is already proving his value to the company. He has already participated in four events: the Fredericton North Heritage Fair last fall, drill in Sussex last November, our Annual General Meeting, and the Atlantic Outdoor Sports and RV Show. Dave made the long drive from Oromocto, NB to Halifax to participate on Saturday – the busiest of the three days. Dave also brought his Hardee hat and added it to the display, which prompted us all to think about buying one! He also answered many questions about the Enfield rifle musket and fielded many other queries. Thank you, Dave, for the effort shown, and for adding so much to the event.

Leigh Gavel’s efforts have already been mentioned, but it must be said that since returning to Civil War reenacting, he has been a driving force for the good of the company. Leigh and Loran, both, met several friends, colleagues and old acquaintances during the weekend, which was good to see. Leigh also answered many questions from visitors who wondered why a “group from New Hampshire” was at the event.

Loran Gavel participated in the Outdoor Show during all three days and added so much to the many conversations with the public about Civil War history, why we were there, and who we are as a group. Loran also poured the coffee that Stephen brought, an act that was much appreciated! When our display tent fell at one point, Loran stepped right in to help set the tent upright again. Loran was also probably our top forager, as he hunted the many aisles and booths for flavourful sustenance. Loran and Leigh, both, worked hard to help Lindsay Titus “break camp” and carry display items to his vehicle. Working together, it only took one trip to complete the task. Thank you to both Gavel brothers for this, and their many efforts.

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Stephen Halliday is our newest member, but is not new to Civil War reenacting. Although living in Halifax, he is working for much of the time in New Brunswick as a driver at Base Gagetown, and so he hopes to be able to participate in the upcoming Military Muster at Kings Landing. Stephen brought us all coffee on Saturday morning, and, as they used to say, “a good time was had by all.” Thank you, Stephen! He also brought copies of pages of *Harper’s Weekly* and repeatedly told the tales of the *Chesapeake* and the *Tallahassee*, and their intriguing and complex connections with Halifax and the Maritimes – an excellent choice of topic to tie Civil War history in with the local area. Thank you, Stephen, for being part of this event, and we welcome you to Company H, Fifth New Hampshire!

Captain Titus participated all three days, bringing a dog tent, and the usual paperwork: handbills, business cards and forms for use by interested visitors and prospective recruits. His officer’s sword garnered attention, especially from some of the young boys passing by. Special thanks must go, too, to Denise Titus, for help in setting up the display on Thursday evening upon our arrival in the city. When Friday morning came, the booth was about 95% ready to go. Thank you, Denise. She has done much behind the scenes for the company, including making the blue 5th New Hampshire table cloth we use at display events.

I must also thank Dave Adams, who, although not present, made the table-top wooden sign that was a focal point for many visitors trying to make sense of why Civil War reenactors (“from New Hampshire!”) were in Halifax. It was read and studied by many. Also, Sylvain Tétrault offered to make the trip to the event, but we were already well-covered for the weekend, so Captain Titus suggested he stay home and enjoy his birthday, which was on Sunday, the 12th. Happy Birthday, Corporal Tétrault! Evelyn Fidler might have come as well, but the annual “Maple – the First Taste of Spring” event at Kings Landing was held that same weekend, so she was busy at work. To be successful, an event such as the Atlantic Outdoor Sports and RV Show must be, and was, truly a team effort. Thank you, to all!

Leigh Gavel Donates Fundraising Money Again!

On Friday, March 10, while in attendance at the Atlantic Outdoor Sports and RV Show in Halifax, Leigh Gavel handed cash to Lindsay Titus in the amount of \$600.00. Leigh raised this money from fundraising carried out at his workplace, along with the money needed for the registration fee for the Outdoor Show. This is not the first time Leigh has raised a substantial amount of money, and his efforts in this endeavour are most certainly appreciated. The money will be placed in the Company H general account.

Leigh had also made a leather sheath for a knife that we planned to raffle-off at the show, and at future events. However, his application to conduct such an activity was denied by the Nova Scotia government, as we are not registered as a not-for-profit organization. Leigh still has the knife and sheath and is working on a way to raise funds through its use. Stay tuned! In the meantime, thank you, Leigh, for your fundraising work and your very kind donation. This is a perfect example of working “for the good of the company”!

Membership Dues are Coming Due in June!

Here are some notes about annual membership dues:

- Leigh Gavel paid his membership dues on Friday, March 10, thus becoming the first member to pay dues for the 2023-24 membership year. Thank you, Leigh!
- Membership dues are \$30.00 per rifle-carrying member, or per family.
- Each member, whether or not carrying a rifle, pays membership dues.
- For 2023, membership dues are required no later than Thursday, June 22, about a week prior to the expiration date of June 30, as processing and mailing takes time.
- Dues money goes to four places:
 1. Of the \$30.00 dues paid, \$12.95 per firearms-carrying member goes to pay liability insurance through the National Firearms Association.
 2. We also pay a \$5.00 NFA group membership fee per member (up to \$50.00 for the group) to obtain insurance. This means that the NFA receives from us \$17.95 per firearms-carrying member. Members who do not carry a firearm are not covered by liability insurance, but are required to pay dues.
 3. We pay \$100.00 (US) for annual membership dues to the New England Brigade. This amounted to a little over \$140.00 in Canadian funds in 2023.
 4. Remaining dues money is placed into our general Company H operating fund for the purchase of equipment, fuel, food, registration fees, etc.

April School of the Soldier in Boudreau-Ouest, NB

In a telephone call from Sylvain Tétrault to Lindsay Titus on March 1, it was decided to hold our first drill of the 2023 season at the home of Corporal Tétrault in Boudreau-Ouest, near Shediac, New Brunswick. A discussion at our fall AGM about which location to use for spring drill – Sussex or Shediac – was left undecided, but during the phone call, it was determined to try Shediac, or more correctly, neighbouring Boudreau-Ouest.

Regarding this initial drill, please note the following:

- Drill Date – Saturday, April 29
- Drill will begin at 12 noon to allow for travel time.
- This date is correct. It is **not** March 29 as erroneously stated in an email from March 13.
- Address – 899 Route 133; Boudreau-Ouest, NB (near Shediac)
- This drill is subject to (a) weather conditions, (b) road conditions, and (c) ground conditions.
- The drill may be moved to Sussex, if conditions in Boudreau-Ouest are not suitable that day.
- The drill will be delayed until Saturday, May 27, if conditions at both locations are not suitable.
- Driving directions to the Tétrault home are forthcoming.
- The Boudreau-Ouest location will reduce driving times for Nova Scotia members, and will be relatively close to Confederation Bridge for PEI members.
- New Brunswick members who wish to carpool, may meet Lindsay Titus at his home in Sussex, and he will drive, with passengers, to Boudreau-Ouest. A departure time will be announced later.
- We are calling the first drill a *School of the Soldier*, to get down to basics: a winter cobweb-clearing review for “veterans”, and an introduction for “Fresh Fish” (newcomers).
- A good turnout will get our on-the-ground season off to a strong start.

Ross Farm Encampment Date is Set

We received word on April 2 that our encampment at Ross Farm has been set for the weekend of June 3-4, with camp set-up possible in the afternoon of Friday, June 2.

Ross Farm is an authentic nineteenth century farm in a beautiful setting, originally established by a veteran of the War of 1812. It is perfect for our use, with gravel roads for marching and grassy areas for our camp, for drill and for musket firing. It has been described as a “mini-Kings Landing”. We were well-received there last year, both by staff and by the public.



Ross Farm is part of the Nova Scotia Museum system and is located near the community of New Ross. It is located on Route 12, between Kentville in the Annapolis Valley, and Chester Basin on Nova Scotia's South Shore.

A "Call to Arms" will be sent out to members and potential recruits by email as we approach the date of this event, to discover the number of expected participants. Your response at that time will be appreciated, even if your answer must be "no". However, your participation will add much to the quality of the event. I hope to see you there.

Potential Recruit “Very Interested” in Joining Co. H

Isaac Whalen, who we met at the Atlantic Outdoor Sports and RV Show in Halifax during the weekend of March 10-12, emailed Captain Titus on March 31 about the possibility of joining Co. H, Fifth New Hampshire. Isaac lives in Porters Lake, near Dartmouth, Nova Scotia, and so he was given 1st Sergeant Gavel's email address, and 1st Sergeant Gavel was notified of Isaac's interest in joining. Leigh Gavel said he would reach out to Isaac. Isaac lives not too far from Leigh (and Loran), who live in Eastern Passage. We hope to welcome Isaac as a member of Co. H in the very near future!

- Upcoming Events -

- **School of the Soldier** – Boudreau-Ouest or Sussex, NB – Saturday, April 29 @ 12 noon
- **Kings Landing Planning Meeting** – Prince William, NB – Saturday, May 13 @ 10:00
- **Company Drill** – Boudreau-Ouest or Sussex, NB – May 27 (tentative)
- **Ross Farm Encampment** – New Ross, NS – June 3-4
- **Kings Landing Encampment** – Prince William, NB – June 16-18

The 2023 New England Brigade Schedule

A vote taken by NEB units in late January and early February resulted in the following schedule being approved by member-units of the New England Brigade.

Since the NEB's annual meeting had already been held, and their preliminary schedule decided, we cannot add Kings Landing to their schedule for this year. They also require two NEB board members to attend any new event. Here is the schedule of events for the New England Brigade that was voted upon. You will note that the NEB event nearest to us is the encampment at Fort Knox in Prospect, Maine (near Bucksport), coordinated by Matt Bray of the 3rd Maine. If we want to get involved in NEB events, this would be an excellent place to start!

March

- **11** – Mid-19th Century Ball – Berlin, Massachusetts (7:00 PM)
- **19** – Scituate Parade – Scituate, Massachusetts (NEB Only)
- **26** – Civil War Swap Meet – GAR Hall; Rockland, Massachusetts (9:00 AM-1:00 PM)

April

- **17** – Patriots Day Parade – Concord, Massachusetts (NEB)
- **29** – Living History & Drill Day – Wickham Park; Manchester, Connecticut
 - NEB & Liberty Greys (Military & Civilians)
 - Event Coordinator: NECWE (Auggie Martin)
- **29 & 30** – School of the Trooper – Abington, Massachusetts

May

- **19-21** – Battle Reenactment – South County Museum – Narragansett, Rhode Island
 - Event Coordinator: Ben Frail (civilwarfan@msn.com)

June

- **21- 25** – Gettysburg 160th – 1289 Blackhorse Tavern Road, Gettysburg
 - This is the event chosen to attend by the 3rd Maine
 - Early registration saves you money.
- **June 30 -July 2** – Gettysburg 160th – Daniel Lady Farm

July

- **21-23** – Fort Knox Encampment – Prospect, Maine

August

- **12-13** – Centuries of the Soldier – American Heritage Museum; Hudson, Massachusetts
- **26-27** – Battle Reenactment – Red Apple Farm – Phillipston, Massachusetts
 - Event Coordinator: Mike Flye (secondwind@yahoo.com)

September

- **15-17** – Battle Reenactment Weekend – Wickham Park, Manchester, Connecticut
 - Event Coordinator: Marc Bassos (marc183@charter.net)
 - Follow on FB at: <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100089125406300>

October

- **6-8** – Battle Reenactment – Eastleigh Farm, Framingham, Massachusetts
 - Event Coordinator: Ken Sellers (kjaysellers@yahoo.com)
- **20-22** – Cedar Creek 160th Anniversary Reenactment – Middletown, Virginia

November

- **17- 19** – Remembrance Weekend – Gettysburg, Pennsylvania
- **18** – America's Hometown Parade (NEB Only)

Canadians in the Ranks of the Fifth New Hampshire

Carlos Tenney was born in Toronto, but was residing in Royalton, Vermont at the time of his enlistment as a substitute on October 6, 1863. He was 21 and his enlistment was credited to Nashua. Tenney mustered-in on the same day, as a private in Co. A. He was wounded on June 17, 1864, near Petersburg, Virginia; captured near Deep Bottom, Virginia on August 16, 1864; and paroled on October 9, 1864. Tenney mustered-out with his regiment on June 28, 1865.